

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of:
Li *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/518,381
Filed: March 3, 2000
For: **Human G Protein Coupled
Receptors**

Confirmation No.

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: Basi, N.

Atty. Docket: 1488.12200002

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Reply To Restriction Requirement

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated **June 29, 2001**, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicants hereby provisionally elect to prosecute the invention of Group II, represented by claims 23-29, 31, 33-39, 41, 43-49, 51, 53-61, 63, 65-73, 75, 77-81, and 83. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

This election is made **with** traverse.

With respect to the Examiner's division of the claims into five groups and the reasons stated therefor, Applicants respectfully traverse. For example, Groups I and II are related as between an polynucleotide (Group II), a polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide (Group I). Groups II and IV are related as between a host cell comprising a polynucleotide (Group II) and a method of using the host cell to screen for ligand binding (Group IV).

Even assuming, *arguendo*, that any of Groups I-V represent distinct or independent inventions, Applicants submit that to search and examine the subject matter

